

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Participant terminals which are to be connected to a promoter terminal are configured by speaker terminals which are enabled to perform two-way communication with 5 the promoter terminal, and audience terminals which are enabled to perform one-way communication with the promoter terminal. The connection line number M of participant terminals which are connected to the promoter terminal is set to  $M = 2S + T$  where S is the number of connected 10 speaker terminals and T is the number of connected audience terminals. As a result, the total amount of communication is suppressed to  $S \times (K - 1)$  ( $K = S + T$ ) as compared with the conventional art in which all participant terminals are configured by speaker terminals.